

# GREATEST NAVAL DISASTER OF THE WAR SUFFERED BY GERMANS IN GULF OF RIGA

Capitals of the Entente Allies Jubilant Over Unexpected Victory.

## ELEVEN OF SHIPS SUNK

Petrograd Claims Surviving Units of Enemy Fleet Driven to Sea.

London, Aug. 23.—Reuters correspondent at Petrograd telegraphs that the Russian naval success has come as a great relief to the capital, after the strain of the last week. The public celebration lasted until late last night. After gathering in front of the government buildings, crowds marched to the British embassy.

London, Aug. 23, (12:17 p. m.)—The capitals of the entente allies are jubilant today over the unexpected victory which the Russians, according to their accounts, have won in the gulf of Riga. England had more than a sympathetic interest in the battle, as a British submarine accounted for the German battleship, the loss of which, added to the destruction of two cruisers, eight torpedo boats and four transports, constitutes the greatest naval disaster suffered by Germany during the war.

For the last week both Petrograd and Berlin have been sending meager reports of naval operations in the gulf of Riga, which were interpreted to mean that Germany was attempting to land forces for the purpose of supporting the left flank of Field Marshal von Hindenburg in his efforts to overrun the whole of Courland and thereby establish his armies along the coast route to the Russian capital.

The official Russian report, claiming a decisive victory for the allies, together with the expulsion of the surviving units of the German naval forces from the gulf, contains few details in addition to an enumeration of German losses. It is assumed that, inasmuch as Petrograd announced several days ago that her large warships had retired from the gulf, the Russian fleet, assisted by submarines and land defenses, wreaked unexpected damage on a part of the German fleet and the transports.

May Alloy Russ Depression.

The moral effect of this action on the Russian people is expected in London to be great, as it probably will do much to allay the depression incident to the continued Russian retreat, which has been arrested nowhere except in the northern sector, from Riga to Koenigsberg.

British military critics regard the Baltic advance of the Germans as of supreme importance. If the invaders really contemplate marching on Petrograd, on that account the Russian naval victory may be of large effect on the German plans.

From the Franco-Belgian front comes reports of artillery duels, unaccompanied by infantry activity.

Gunboat Only Loss of Russ.

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Although the president of the duma announced that the German battleship cruiser Moltke had been sunk by a British submarine there still appears to be some doubt whether it was the Moltke or a vessel of that type which was sent to the bottom.

The only other German warship of the type of the Moltke, according to 1915 naval records, is the battleship Goeben, sold to Turkey in 1914 and renamed the Sultan Selim.

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# Japan to Give More Help to Allies' Cause

All Resources to Be Lent in Increasing Output of Munitions, It Is Stated.

Tokio, Aug. 23.—The Kokumin Shinbun says:

"Premier Okuma states that Japan has decided to give greater assistance to Russia to prosecute the war. He could not discuss details, but allowed it to be understood that this assistance would take the form of the forwarding of greater supplies of munitions."

The Associated Press learns that Japan has decided to employ all available governmental and private resources for increasing its output of munitions for the allies, particularly Russia.

The Japanese government believes the time has arrived for more concerted action against the enemies of Japan and her allies.

One of Russia's greatest embarrassments in her conduct of the war has been a shortage of guns and ammunition. Military writers, while not discounting the effectiveness of the enormous Austro-German offensive movement, have stated that the extent of Russian reverses in the last few months has been due in part to inadequate supplies of munitions.

Notwithstanding every effort to increase the domestic output, Russian facilities are still comparatively small and entirely insufficient to meet the large demands of such a campaign as is now under way. With the Baltic sea closed to her vessels from without, she has been able to import supplies only through the port of Archangel, closed by ice during a large part of the year, or over the trans-Siberian road.

The attempt of the allies to force the Dardanelles has as one of its greatest objects, the opening of the straits route for the assistance of Russia.

Large orders have been placed in the United States by Russia and extensive shipments have been made from Seattle and other Pacific ports. Japan also has forwarded war supplies to Russia.

Ask Eight-Hour Day and Improved Conditions Which War Profits Entitle Them.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Executive officers of the metal trades division of the American Federation of Labor met here today to plan the movement for an eight-hour day and improved conditions to which they contend manufacturers' profits from war orders entitle their workers.

The International Association of Machinists already has begun an eight-hour campaign with promises of a strike, if necessary, and the metal trades are expected to give their moral and active support.

Affiliated with the Federation are the metal workers, electrical workers, pattern makers, machinists, blacksmiths, boiler makers, metal polishers, molders, plumbers and other trades.

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# ITALY SENDS WARSHIPS TO FIGHT TURKS

Large Force of Troops Sail From Several Ports Under Sealed Orders.

## FOR THE DARDANELLES

Berlin Reports Sofia and Constantinople Signed a New Treaty.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—With Italy's declaration of war on Turkey the American embassy at Constantinople probably will be asked to take over the Italian interests in Turkey and those of Russia for whom Italy has been acting.

Rome, Aug. 23, (via Paris, 3:20 p. m.)—Several transports laden with troops and escorted by warships have departed from Naples, Syracuse, Tarento and Brindisi for an unknown destination.

They sailed under sealed orders. It is generally believed that they are to be employed for operations against Turkey.

Berlin, Aug. 23, (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The Overseas News agency today gave out the following: "Official reports from Sofia and Constantinople state that Turkey and Bulgaria have signed a new treaty, Turkey granting Bulgaria her desired direct railroad connection with the sea and Bulgaria agreeing to observe a benevolent neutrality if not more."

This demonstrates the definite failure of the efforts of the entente powers to revive the alliance of the Balkan states and induce them to join in the war against Turkey.

Unofficial reports late in July stated that a convention had been signed on July 22 by which Turkey ceded to Bulgaria the Turkish portion of the Baghdad railway. The reports stated that the treaty left Bulgaria unpunished concerning her attitude in the war.

That Bulgaria had not been pledged to any definite course as regards the war, has been the assumption under which negotiations have been conducted by the entente allies leading to a satisfaction of her reported demands for territorial concessions from Serbia and Greece as the price of her entry into the war on the sides of the allies.

One of Problems Settled.

Milan, Italy, Aug. 23, (via Paris, 3:45 p. m.)—One of the main difficulties in the way of a solution of the Balkan problem favorable to the entente allies has been settled, according to an interview with Premier Pachich of Serbia, published in the Corriere della Sera. The premier is quoted as saying that Serbia has given way to Italy regarding Albania.

ALIENS ARE TOLD TO RESPECT THE LAWS

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Responding to numerous inquiries, the bureau of naturalization today issued a general letter relative to its views as to the course which should be followed in training the alien population in American citizenship.

While pointing out the impossibility of laying any hard and fast rules on the subject the letter declares that the prime requisite is ability to speak the English tongue. "It is through this method alone," it says, "that aliens can acquire a practical knowledge of our institutions."

Above all, the letter says, aliens should be taught that the supreme authority in this country is the law and that the first duty of an American citizen is obedience to that law.

Loading Ships With Munitions.

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 23.—Fifteen locomotives, 5,000 tons of steel rails and other railroad equipment aggregating 7,000 tons, part of a large order to local firms from the Russian government, were being loaded on the British steamship St. Leonards today. It is estimated that it will take a week or ten days to complete the stowing of the freight. The St. Leonards will then sail for Vladivostok via the Panama canal and may proceed to Archangel and unload there. A second shipment is expected to be made on the Japanese steamship Indo Maru due here Sept. 29.

## THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and Vicinity.

Thunder showers this afternoon or tonight, cooler tonight. Tuesday probably cloudy and continued cool.

Temperature at 7 a. m., 68. Highest yesterday, 83; lowest last night, 65. Velocity of wind at 7 a. m., 3 miles per hour.

Precipitation, .03 inch.

Relative humidity at 7 p. m., 55, at 7 a. m., 75, at 1 p. m. today, 54.

Stage of water 6.5, a fall of .2 in last 48 hours.

J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

# Officers Die on a Ship Hit By Germans

Lampport and Holt Liner Is Chased Four Hours Before Surrendering.

Queenstown, Aug. 23, (3:23 p. m.)—The Lampport and Holt liner Diomed has been sunk by a German submarine. Her captain, quartermaster and steward were killed by shells fired by the submarine during a pursuit of four hours.

An officer of the Diomed who landed here today with other survivors says that two submarines were sighted. According to his report they were riddled with dummy funnels. One of them, this officer asserts, subjected the Diomed to a heavy shell fire.

The liner attempted to escape, but surrendered after being pursued for four hours. Two boats were lowered and 40 members of the crew got away, taking with them the body of the captain.

Shortly afterwards one boat was swamped. Two Englishmen and five Chinese were drowned. The others were picked up by the second boat.

This boat, being overcrowded, was in danger of being swamped, but its occupants were saved by the arrival of a steamship.

Sofia, Bulgaria, (via London, 11:—The Turkish collier Espahan has been torpedoed by a British submarine at Haidar Pasha and the steamer Budos of the German-Levant line, loaded with munitions and provisions, has been sunk in the sea of Marmora.

Paris, Aug. 23.—Two French torpedo boats encountered and sank a German torpedo boat destroyer off Ostend, Belgium last night, says an announcement made here today. "Our boats were undamaged."

# HAITIENS PLAN TO FIGHT AMERICANS

Reinforcement to Be Sent to Admiral Caperton—Custom House at St. Marc Taken Over.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Reliable reports have been received that Haitian rebels have been organizing an army to attack the American forces on the island and reinforcements will be sent to Rear Admiral Caperton.

The marine artillery battalion of Annapolis, comprising 350 men and twelve 3-inch field pieces, will be embarked on the armored cruiser Tennessee and sent to southern waters this week.

Admiral Caperton today reported quiet at Cap Haitien and Port au Prince, but said it had been necessary to take over the custom house at St. Marc.

# AVIATOR GILBERT IS BACK IN PARIS

Interned After Bombarding Zeppelin Sheds, He Escapes from Camp at St. Gothard.

Paris, Aug. 23, (3:30 p. m.)—Eugene Gilbert, the French aviator, who was obliged to land in Switzerland June 27, through an accident to his motor, after bombarding the Zeppelin sheds at Friedrichshafen, and was interned near St. Gothard, has escaped. Gilbert arrived in Paris last night and reported for service at the French ministry of war today.

Before joining the French aviation service after the outbreak of war Gilbert gained fame in several international aviation meets.

In April, 1913, Gilbert broke the world's non-stop record in a flight from Villacoublay to Vittoria, Spain, when he traveled a distance of 513 miles. In August, 1913, the Frenchman made a flight from Paris to Pezabo, a town on the Portuguese frontier. He beat the record for a long flight held at that time by Moulins, who flew from Paris to Warsaw, a distance of 875, without stopping.

# TROLLEY STRIKERS LET CARS OPERATE

Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 23.—The telephone system used in dispatching cars on the Natrona-Aspinwall division of the West Penn railways was put out of commission for a time today when a booth at Breckinridge was burned, but striking trolley men and their sympathizers made no effort to interfere with cars sent over the line soon afterward. Reports that the state constabulary would be called to protect the section where a car was burned and a number derailed late last night was denied by police in towns through which the line passes.

Quarantine Annulled.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 23.—In a proclamation signed Saturday before the departure of Governor Dunne for Chicago, the quarantine prohibiting the importation of hogs into Kankakee county was annulled. The quarantine was established June 23, 1914 for the purpose of aiding the county authorities in the eradication of hog cholera.

Fatality Near Starved Rock.

Ottawa, Ill., Aug. 23.—J. A. Schwartz of Canton, Ill., was killed and members of his family were injured last night when Schwartz's automobile overturned near the Starved Rock state park.

# GERMAN GOVERNMENT STILL SILENT ON ARABIC SINKING; WASHINGTON ASKING FACTS

## SAVE HUNDREDS FROM DROWNING

Motor Boats Rescue People Driven Into Trees by Meramec Floods—Crop Less Enormous.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 23.—St. Louis county is recovering somewhat today from the third calamity which has descended on this community in as many days—a flood which snuffed out at least 12 lives, possibly many more—destroyed more than a million dollars worth of property and made 2,000 families homeless.

Twelve deaths had been reported to the coroner this morning and almost one hundred persons were listed as missing. River men who are closely acquainted with the situation fear the falling of the Meramec today may dislodge a heavy toll in human lives. They also said the bodies of many of the drowned probably would be washed into the Mississippi river, carried far down stream and might not be recovered soon because of the mass of flood debris now in the river, and of its unusually strong current.

Spacially distressing conditions prevail throughout southeastern Missouri and parts of western Illinois, where the toll, less severe in the number of lives lost, is far greater in damage to property and crops. Railroad, telephone and telegraph facilities in many counties are interrupted. The physical damage may aggregate \$5,000,000 and tens of thousands of farmers and villagers are homeless.

In Greene and Jersey counties, Ill., from ten to fifteen thousand acres of farm land are under water as the result of the breaking of three levees in Madison and St. Clair counties, and all rivers and creeks are flooded to the point of breaking their levees.

All these conditions are due to a branch of the Texas coast storm, which last Friday swept through Arkansas into Missouri and across the Mississippi to Illinois. St. Louis had hardly recovered from the effects of the tornado and its accompanying record breaking downpour Saturday, when the river Des Peres went a mile out of its banks and on receding disclosed 11 dead. Before the Des Peres had fallen to its normal level, the Meramec, ten to fifteen miles west of this city, went four miles out of its banks with much more disastrous results.

The Meramec rose during the night while thousands of campers and picnickers slept in club houses and summer cottages which dot the river's banks. From 2 o'clock yesterday morning until last midnight the river rose a foot an hour. The flood waters of swollen Quark mountain streams which empty into the Meramec came rushing down the river in layers a foot high, tearing farms, club houses, bridges and barges from their moorings and hurling them against trees, telegraph poles and against each other in the mad rush toward the Mississippi river. Men, women and children caught in the whirl of debris screamed, discharged firearms and climbed to their rooftops to attract rescuers. Calls for help were sent to St. Louis and hundreds of rescuers with motor boats and other craft were on the scene at daybreak. They toiled all day and all night and rescued 669 persons.

This morning men, and in a few cases women, who had climbed to tree tops and roofs, still were crying for help. Scores of them had spent 24 hours or more in the trees dressed scantily and soaked to the skin.

Valley Park, Drake, Eureka, Decker, Clinton, Pacific and every other city on either side of the Meramec for a distance of more than 50 miles were inundated but this morning the water began to recede. Almost the entire population of Valley Park—3,500 families—were driven from their homes and large manufacturing plants about which the town is built were rendered useless probably for weeks.

Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 23.—Flood water from the White river is coming over the Rock Island levee at Newport and the town will be flooded, according to reports here today. The \$25,000 causeway just completed over Newport lake, has been broken.

Hundreds of volunteers this morning were working on the levee and negroes had been forced at the point of shotguns to join them. The levee at Ingleside near Newport has broken.

Reports were received here last night that a family of five persons had been drowned in the bottoms near Oil Trough.

In Newport all business has been suspended. The water and electric light plants have been put out of commission by the water. The damage to crops in White river bottoms will be enormous.

The steamers Muskogee and Mary G. Lucas are running day and night rescuing families from the overflowed districts, many of the lowland dwellers being taken from trees.

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## Capital Considers Information so Far Received Very Fragmentary.

## GERARD IS NOT ADVISED

Ambassador Queried for Report, but Is Told Not to Request One.

London, Aug. 23, (5:04 p. m.)—There were 27 Americans in the crew of the steamer Baron Erskine which was sunk by a German submarine last week. The Americans, who were horse tenders, were landed safely with the rest of the crew.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Official announcement was made at the White house today "as soon as all of the facts regarding the Arabic are ascertained our course of action will be determined."

This official announcement was given out by Secretary Tamm today after a conference with President Wilson. Mr. Tamm said the statement was all he was authorized to say.

The statement bore out previous unofficial statements made at the White house and state department that President Wilson had not determined what action the American government would take and would suspend judgment while awaiting receipt of all facts available from all sources.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Secretary Lansing today called Ambassador Gerard at Berlin asking if the German government had received an official report on the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic. The ambassador, however, was not instructed to ask for one. It was officially stated that the American government is not yet at all sure of the facts and considers its information very fragmentary.

Secretary Lansing said the situation was exactly as it stood Saturday; that no steps had been taken other than to get accurate information as to what had taken place.

From the fact that Ambassador Gerard was not directed to seek an explanation, the inference was drawn that the state department has decided to let the German government initiate any explanation it may have to offer.

Ambassador Page at London had sent by mail some affidavits and other data, but has been instructed to cable a synopsis of the material.

In the view of the state department no points have been established beyond doubt regarding the present questions of convoy, the change of course of the Arabic just before the torpedo struck and other essentials. All the information received, aside from the newspaper reports, which reflect censorship, is embodied in one affidavit of an American. The department regards it as essential that this shall be corroborated and supplemented.

The American embassy will be expected to find survivors and secure their statements, which may be slow work.

Claim Vessel Not Armed.

London, Aug. 23, (1:30 p. m.)—Supplementing official information given out previously concerning the sinking of the Arabic, the British admiralty today made the following announcement:

"The Arabic was an unarmed passenger ship, outward bound to a neutral port. It was thus impossible for her to have been carrying contraband to this country."

"She was sunk by a German submarine without warning, and she neither attempted to attack the submarine nor to escape from it."

The admiralty today authorized a denial of the report that the steamer Dunsley, torpedoed shortly before the Arabic was sunk, was an armed patrol. The admiralty states the Dunsley was a peaceful and unarmed trader.

Survivors of the Dunsley stated yesterday that she was torpedoed just before the Arabic was sunk and that the German submarine hid behind the Dunsley to lie in wait for the Arabic.

11,000,000 Fair Visitors.

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 23.—The total number of visitors to the Panama Pacific exposition has reached 11,000,000, it was announced today. The 10,000,000 mark was recorded Aug. 9. The average daily attendance since the exposition opened Feb. 20, has been 59,919. The average for the last two weeks has been 79,277.

Lumley Sent Up For Life.

Boone, Iowa, Aug. 23.—Arthur Lumley, aged 18 of Des Moines, was today sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary in district court for the murder of T. J. Smalley, a wealthy Boone county farmer. Lumley confessed to the murder last week.

Joliet Convicts Escape.

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 23.—Guards of the prison at Joliet, searching for Frank Miller, alias Otto Riedle, and James Morrison, convicts who escaped yesterday, had not recaptured the fugitives today.

# SMOKE CLOUD OVER BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 23.—From After Bay to the international boundary line the coast of British Columbia was shrouded today in smoke as a result of numerous forest fires.

An army of fire wardens has been fighting the flames in various districts for several days, but lack of rain is seriously handicapping their efforts. Thirty dwellings and farm houses, several saw mills and hundreds of telegraph and telephone poles have been burned.

White Rock, a resort where a large number of residents of Vancouver and Westminster have summer dwellings, is threatened by one of the fires.